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(74) Agents: **PISTOLESI, Roberto** et al.; Dragotti & Asso-
ciati srl, Galleria San Babila 4/C, I-20122 Milano (IT).

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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US):
ADORKEM TECHNOLOGY SPA [IT/IT]; Via L.
Da Vinci 28, I-24062 Costa Volpino (Bergamo) (IT).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **COTTICELLI**,
Giovanni [IT/IT]; Via Penati 8, I-20063 Cernusco sul
Naviglio (Milano) (IT). **DI LERNIA**, Gianluca [IT/IT];
Via Montemartini 6, I-20139 Milano (IT). **MILANESI**,
Silvia [IT/IT]; Via Dei Genovesi 13, I-27042 Bressana
Bottarone (Pavia) (IT).

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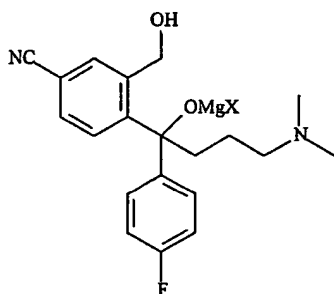
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(54) Title: METHOD FOR THE PREPARATION OF CITALOPRAM



(I)

(57) Abstract: A method for the preparation of citalopram and its pharmaceu-
tically acceptable salts is described; it's obtained starting from 5-cyanophthalide
by reaction with a mixture of 4fluorophenyl magnesium bromide and 3-dimethy-
laminopropyl magnesium chloride. The intermediate obtained is showed here-be-
low: wherein X is an halogen, preferably chlorine or bromine, which is cyclized
without any isolation.